

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SWEARING IN OF DELEGATE

The SPEAKER. Will Ms. PLASKETT present herself in the well.

All Members will rise and Ms. PLASKETT will please raise her right hand.

Ms. PLASKETT appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOYER). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HEALTHCARE

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, healthcare is important, and no one knows that better than our country's nurses. As the first registered nurse elected to Congress, I know how the Affordable Care Act has improved our country's healthcare, especially for the 133 million Americans living with pre-existing conditions, including 11.5 million who live in my home State of Texas, the most uninsured State in the Nation.

Today, we are bringing a resolution to the floor which will empower the House of Representatives, the people's House, to intervene in a lawsuit that Republicans have brought solely to throw the American healthcare system into chaos. I urge my colleagues to

support the Allred resolution and vote to protect the healthcare of millions of our fellow Americans.

INAUGURATION DAY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolinians today will celebrate the inauguration of Governor Henry McMaster, Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette, and Attorney General Alan Wilson, along with all of our other constitutional officers.

After serving 2 years as Governor succeeding Governor Nikki Haley, Henry McMaster enters his first full term. He has dedicated his life to serving our citizens. Best wishes to Henry, First Lady Peggy, and their two children, Henry, Jr., and Mary Rodgers.

The Governor's running mate, Pamela Evette, is a successful business leader to serve as Lieutenant Governor. Her husband, David, and children, Amanda, Joseph, and Jackson, will make a positive difference.

Our oldest son, Alan, was sworn in for a third term today after becoming the youngest attorney general in the Nation in 2011. Our family is very grateful for his and his wife Jennifer's success, with our grandchildren, Michael and Anna Grace.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

IN SUPPORT OF COVERAGE FOR
PREEXISTING CONDITIONS

(Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, one in two, the number of Delawareans living with a preexisting condition, including cancer survivors and those with chronic diseases.

Before the Affordable Care Act, having a preexisting condition meant your access to healthcare was in jeopardy. You could be charged unaffordable premiums with limited benefits or denied coverage outright. Because of the ACA, the fear of not being able to find coverage has been replaced with the guarantee of lifesaving protections.

To those who want to roll back those protections, I ask you to think about the Delawareans caring for a newborn with congenital heart disease, those struggling to overcome substance use disorder, or the many monitoring their blood sugar up to 10 times a day.

Just 9 years ago, this body rightfully promised to protect those very people. I urge my colleagues to stand with me in defending strong protections for people with preexisting conditions and reject efforts to turn back the clock on millions of Americans and their families.

URGING FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF THE LITTLE SHELL TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF MONTANA

(Mr. GIANFORTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this body to provide the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana with the overdue Federal recognition they deserve.

The Little Shell Tribe began petitioning the Federal Government for recognition in the 1930s, several generations ago. Mr. Speaker, 80 years later, the resolute Tribe continues their efforts.

Last year, the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians Restoration Act passed this House unanimously. It was the first time that a bill providing Federal recognition of the Little Shell Tribe passed either the House or the Senate.

Following passage in the House, however, this uncontroversial bill hit a roadblock in the Senate. We take up their worthy cause again today as I introduce the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I call on this body to consider and pass this bill again. This Congress should provide the Little Shell Tribe with the Federal recognition it deserves, particularly after eight decades of dedicated efforts.

RISING IN SUPPORT OF
BACKGROUND CHECKS

(Ms. PINGREE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, a commonsense bill to mandate background checks before the sale of a firearm.

During my first term in Congress, I served with my friend and former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords on the Armed Services Committee. Mr. Speaker, 8 years ago this week, during a public meeting with her constituents, a gunman shot her and 18 others, tragically killing 6.

Since that dark day in 2011, mass shootings have become commonplace, occurring in our schools, houses of worship, movie theaters, nightclubs, grocery stores, a newsroom, a concert, nearly every place imaginable that should be safe.

Although 97 percent of Americans support background checks, many Members of Congress simply pass along thoughts and prayers in the face of these tragedies instead of taking action.

Enough. The Nation's gun violence epidemic must be addressed by the 116th Congress.

I am in awe of Gabby's resilience and advocacy for overdue gun safety reforms like H.R. 8, which will ensure